

REMARKS

The Examiner asserts throughout the office action that several referenced disclosures of Sehr (6,085,976) would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of airline reservation validation and which, in combination with references from Pugliese III (6,044,353) would render Applicant's invention unpatentable. Applicant objects to this assertion on the general basis that Sehr's system is not of the same nature as that of Applicant. Specifically, Sehr's card is pre-loaded with information such as monetary values and other passenger account rights, similar to a credit/debit card, whereas Applicant's card is simply loaded with a passenger's identification and account accessing information, which is then used to access an airline's central data base where that passenger's account holdings and rights information is stored and from which it is able to be applied to services used. This is a significant difference in utility of the two cards, and hence of the two systems.

Therefore, for at least the reasons argued above, Applicant respectfully submits that Pugliese III and Sehr, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest every feature recited in claims 28, 32, 37, 29-31, 33-36, 38-43, 44, 45, 61, 70, 62, 66, 65, 75, 78, 79. Accordingly, Pugliese III and Sehr, either individually or in combination, **fail to render obvious** the subject matter of claims 28, 32, 37, 29-31, 33-36, 38-43, 44,

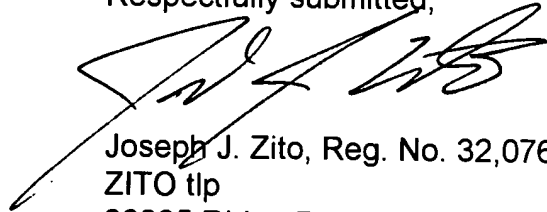
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45, 61, 70, 62, 66, 65, 75, 78, 79. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 28, 32, 37, 29-31, 33-36, 38-43, 44, 45, 61, 70, 62, 66, 65, 75, 78, 79 as unpatentable over Pugliese III in view of Sehr is respectfully solicited.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the application be passed to issue.

Should the Examiner find the Application to be other than in condition for allowance, or in the event the Examiner believes a conference would serve to advance the prosecution of this application in any way, the undersigned attorney is available at the number noted below.

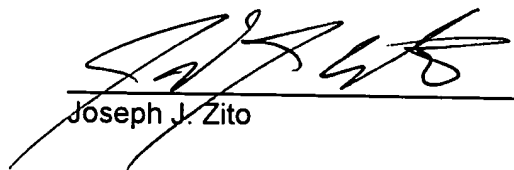
Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

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Joseph J. Zito

1-30-06
Date